

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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62

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 IO-10 /071 W

----- 031260

R 290120Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4299

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 03716

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, VS

SUBJECT: DAI DAN TOC DAILY CLOSED BY MOI ORDER

1. SAIGON DAILY DAI DAN TOC (STRONG OPPOSITION) WAS ORDERED CLOSED MARCH 28 BY MOI FOR VIOLATION OF ART 28 OF PRESS CODE. REASON GIVEN BY MININFO OFFICIAL FOR WHAT OTHER NEWSPAPERS DESCRIBED AS "TEMPORARY SUSPENSION" WAS THAT DAI DAN TOC HAD BEEN CONFISCATED THREE TIMES WITHIN LAST WEEK FOR VIOLATING ARTICLE 28 OF PRESS LAW 019/69 WHICH STIPULATES THAT PRESS SHALL NOT BE USED TO DISSEMINATE NEWS THAT JEOPARDIZES NATIONAL SECURITY OR PUBLIC ORDER.

2. SAME MININFO OFFICIAL SAID SAI DAN TOC HAD BEEN FLAGRANTLY VIOLATING PRESS LAW AND RECENT GVN CLARIFICATION OF PRESS POLICY (SAIGON 3390) BY "AIRING MOST IRRESPONSIBLE RUMORS AND DISCLOSING RVNAF TROOP MOVEMENTS" DESPITE STRICT PROHIBITION IN CASE OF LATTER UNLESS CLEARED BY GVN IN ADVANCE. ACCORDING TO SAME SOURCE, IN VIEW OF CURRENT EMERGENCY SITUATION WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS VERY CHAOTIC IN SOME PLACES, PARTICULARLY IN DA NANG, GVN HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ENFORCE LAW. SAME OFFICIAL POINTED OUT CLOSING INTENDED TO BE TEMPORARY.

3. DAI DAN TOC HAD BEEN LAST OF RADICAL OR STRONG OPPOSITION PAPERS TO CONTINUE PRINTING.

MARTIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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